

**Opening, Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes, Formal Public Comment**

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Gray. The following members of the State Board were present: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Nina Lou Bunting, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr.; G. Patrick Heffernan, Jorge L. Melendez, Barbara B. Rutt, and Terry W. Whittaker. Secretary of Education Steven Godowsky was present to serve as the Executive Secretary for the State Board and the Board's Executive Director, Donna Johnson, was also present.

The agenda was approved as presented. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez and seconded by Dr. Whittaker to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Minutes from the Board's work session of June 16, 2016 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the minutes of the Board's June 16<sup>th</sup> work session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried by voice vote. (Mr. Coverdale abstained). The minutes of the regular meeting of June 16, 2016 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the minutes of the Board's regular meeting of June 16, 2016. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried by voice vote. (Mr. Coverdale abstained).

A moment of silence was requested in remembrance of Susan Francis, former Executive Director of the Delaware School Boards Association.

Public Comment

No individuals requested to address the Board.

**Election of Vice President, Committee Reports from State Board Members, Update from Executive Director, Update on Literacy Campaign Efforts, Secretary's Report**

Election of Vice President for 2016-2017 School Year

Dr. Gray noted that each year at the Board's July meeting the State Board elects one of its members to serve as the Vice President. Mr. Melendez made a motion to nominate Mrs. Bunting to serve as Vice President. Mr. Coverdale seconded the nomination. Mrs. Bunting accepted the nomination and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Congratulations were extended.

Committee Reports and Executive Director's Update

Board members highlighted their monthly activities. Mr. Coverdale, Mrs. Bunting and Mr. Melendez attended the Budget Committee meeting. Mr. Melendez noted that the final budget would be presented to the State Board for action at its August meeting. Mrs. Rutt attended the DSBA Legislative Committee meeting representing the State Board.

Ms. Johnson noted the news articles and information posted under the Executive Director's report. She stated that the State Board has scheduled a workshop on ESSA for August 9<sup>th</sup>. The Board was also informed that Ms. Johnson would be attending and presenting at the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) New Member Institute. Ms. Johnson also provided a brief update on the Board's Literacy Campaign efforts.

Dr. Gray commented on her attendance at the Summer STEM Academy and how curriculum was integrated in this professional development for teachers. The highlight she stated was making s'mores in a solar oven.

### Secretary's Report

Secretary Godowsky highlighted his first June 30<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly. He also noted his participation in Boys State and Girls State. The Board was informed that 31 summer interns that have joined the Department this summer. These interns are paid through grants.

### **Educators as Catalysts Showcase**

#### Jobs for Delaware Graduates Overview and Current Initiatives

Nicole Poore, President of Jobs for Delaware Graduates, presented to the State Board the history of Jobs for Delaware Graduates which was created in 1979. Over time the program has expanded including middle schools in 2010 and vocational technical high schools last year. JDG is an approved career pathway and is offered to students in Grades 7-12 and focuses on employment skills, life skills, financial skills and workplace skills. The program assists in job placement and has developed relationships with employers of working students. Ms. Poore also highlighted the Delaware Career Association which is a student group that offers leadership, citizenship and career preparation. Laura Fuski, a JDG specialist in New Castle County, assisted in the presentation.

The Board recessed from 2:25 to 2:33 p.m.

### **Department of Education Regulations, Department Presentations, Charter Schools, Information Items, Adjournment**

Dr. Gray noted that the next item would be the Department Regulations.

#### Regulations

Tina Shockley presented the regulation on the agenda.

#### Regulation 922 – Children with Disabilities Subpart A, Purposes and Definitions – For Action

The Secretary of Education requested the consent of the State Board of Education to amend 14 DE Admin. Code 922 Children with Disabilities Subpart A, Purposes and Definitions. The regulation is being amended to change the terminology of "Emotional Disturbance" to also be known as "Emotional Disability" as these terms are used interchangeably. A motion was made by Mrs. Rutt

to amend the regulation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board signed the appropriate Order.

#### Secretary Only Regulations

Ms. Johnson noted that the Board receives for its information only notice of regulations that require the approval of the Secretary only. These regulations do not require action by the Board but may inform or connect with other policy items before the Board and are thus presented for their information and awareness. The Board received information on Regulation 616 and Regulation 255.

#### **Department Presentations**

##### Release of Statewide and Districtwide Assessment Data

Chief Academic Officer Michael Watson presented preliminary assessment data. Delaware assessments reflect what students are learning and practicing in the classroom on a daily basis and are aligned to the Delaware content standards. These assessments continue to be one measure of student progress. Scores used in combination with district-level assessments, report cards, teacher feedback, classroom work and more provide a holistic view of student achievement across grades. The data showed that more students are demonstrating proficiency in English Language Arts with an overall proficiency percentage of 55% which is up three percentage points from last year. Mathematics also showed an increase with a proficiency percentage of 44% which is also up three percentage points from last year. The Board also received data on districtwide and charter school scores as well as DCAS Alt 1 for Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. Mr. Watson highlighted the family guides that parents receive which is a resource that provides detailed information on how their child scored on the different parts of the assessment.

##### SAT Standard Setting Process

Mr. Watson briefed the Board on the standard setting process which began in June and finished on July 14<sup>th</sup> with the states involved unanimously supporting the final cut scores (CT, NH and ME). The cut scores are used for the results to identify the appropriate achievement level for each student. The proposed cut scores for English Language Arts are: Level 1, below 420; Level 2, 420-470; Level 3, 480-620 and Level 4, 630 and above. For Mathematics, the proposed score ranges are: Level 1, below 420; Level 2, 420-520; Level 3, 530-640 and Level 4, 650 and above. The Board will be asked to take action on these scores and proficiency levels at its August meeting.

#### **Board Presentation – Task Force Updates**

Ms. Johnson noted that the agenda contained information on various Task Forces to provide an update for the Board. She highlighted the Financial Literacy Task Force that Mr. Melendez and Mr. Coverdale served on. The Task Force recommended that standards be developed for financial literacy for Grades K-12 and that the Department convene a group of stakeholders to develop these standards. The Task Force also recommended that Delaware should include requirements for educator preparation programs to include instruction in the financial literacy standards and clarify the educational program components which should be included in a

student's educator preparation curriculum. These standards would need to be presented to the State Board by September 2017.

Mrs. Rutt noted that there was consensus on the Education Funding Improvement Commission that further study was needed.

### **Charter Schools**

David Blowman presented the Charter School update. He highlighted that 114 of the 129 former Delaware STEM students have enrolled in a new school for the 2016-2017 school year and the charter office is continuing to reach out to the parents of the remaining students. The Board also received a timeline for the revisions to the Framework process as well as the timeline for charter renewals.

### **Adjournment**

The information items were noted. There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Melendez to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs., Rutt and carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Steven H. Godowsky, Executive Secretary and  
Secretary of Education